
Effective: August 1, 1997

Supersedes: April 1, 1995

96.00 Utility Accommodation
96.40 Expressways
96.41 New Installations

By: Director, Bureau of Highway Operations

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A. General Policy

When permitted, longitudinal installations shall be located at or as near as practical to the right-of-way line. Facilities located on private easements may be allowed to overhang the right-of-way in most cases, however, a permit shall be required from the department. Below ground installations should not be within the clear zone. Above ground installations shall not be within the clear zone.

Utilities shall not be allowed to be installed longitudinally within the median area.

B. Longitudinal Requirements

A utility may be charged a fee or provide the Department with communication services for the right to locate its communication facilities longitudinally on expressway right-of-way. When fees or services are warranted, an agreement between the utility and the Department shall be negotiated to determine these and other specific requirements of the installation (e.g. co-location between utility companies) prior to the issuance of a permit. Any fee or services package agreed to by the Department and utilities for expressway occupation is not part of the compensable/non-compensable policy regarding utility relocation. Utilities may receive a prorated share of any initial fee payment if the Department requires the utility to move its facility off of expressway right-of-way for a highway improvement project.

Due to the Department's concerns regarding longitudinal expressway installations with respect to safety, aesthetics, multiple installations through the same corridor, and the proliferation of cellular antennas, special provisions may be warranted for each utility installation. This includes, but is not limited to, requiring:

- 1) Utilities to resolve co-location issues with each other before permits are issued.
- 2) Access restrictions to a site during construction and maintenance of the facility.
- 3) A full-time inspector representing the Department paid for by the utility.
- 4) A full-time traffic control provider.
- 5) Installation a duct (conduit) system and/or placement of its facility within a duct.
- 6) Replacement of damaged or destroyed trees/vegetation or transplanting trees that can be saved at the discretion of the Department. See policies 96.50(G) and 96.54(B) for additional requirements.